

INFORMATION NOTICE

WORKFORCE SERVICES

Number: WSIN08-27

Date: December 17, 2008

Expiration Date: 1/17/11

69:47:js:12426

TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: LWIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES—
NOVEMBER 21, 2008

The minutes from the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) Advisory Committee conference call on Friday, November 21, 2008, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Terrietta Robinson at (916) 654-8035 or James W. Scholl at (916) 657-4610.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Chief
Workforce Services Division

Attachments

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, November 21, 2008

Agenda

9 a.m.

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics

Bob Hermsmeier
Workforce Services
Branch (WSB)

- NEG Grants for Areas Affected by Fire
- NEG Grants for Economic Slowdown

Discussion

- Integration/CALWINS FSR/Learning Labs
- Impacts of the Economic Downturn Situation
on EDD and LWIAs

CWIB

Barbara Halsey, California
Workforce Investment
Board (CWIB)

LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Friday, November 21, 2008

Welcome/Agenda Building/Hot Topics—Bob Hermsmeier, Workforce Services Branch (WSB)

Veterans Employment-Related Assistance Program Grant Announcement — The Governor announced that \$12.4 million of Workforce Investment Area (WIA) funds will fund 16 veterans' projects. These projects which were awarded as part of a Solicitation for Proposals will contain both WIA 15 percent and 25 percent funds. Because of a "match" requirement for these projects, the entire package totals \$18.4 million. For more details please see the [Governor's press release](#).

California's Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) Initiative — The reviewers are in the final stages of scoring applications from the CalGRIP Solicitation for Proposals. A Governor's press release is expected to announce the successful applicants sometime in December.

Unemployment Benefits Extension — The Senate approved a seven week extension in unemployment benefits. This extension of benefits to 20 weeks will become effective as soon as the President signs the legislation.

NEG for Areas Affected by the Fire — Jose Luis Marquez, WSB. The President has declared that the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Santa Barbara are eligible for major disaster declaration. The State will ask for authority to give these counties \$9.8 million from the existing National Emergency Grants (NEG) wild fire grant in order to implement the mitigation and debris removal activities before the rainy season. The State of California will also submit a new NEG request to obtain new funding.

Impacts of the Economic Downturn Situation on EDD and LWIAs — Everyone
NEG Grants for Economic Slowdown—Bob Hermsmeier, WSB.

The Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA) continue to experience high unemployment rates (8.2 percent statewide), which in some cases are up 35 – 40 percent over last year. The numbers of customers at the One-Stops have increased 35 – 50 percent over last year with some customers having to wait up to three hours to receive services. Most major industries are reducing their workforce and expectations are low for short-term increases in hiring for the holiday season.

In order to receive additional NEG funding, California will need hard data to document the increased numbers of clients in the One-Stop's resource rooms and the amount of return visits to the One-Stops. The Department of Labor (DOL) typically wants documentation on the specific layoffs that are causing the need for NEG funds. The detailed data from the rapid response workshops may provide the best documentation for the need. This data would validate the community and/or industry-wide layoffs. Hard data needs to validate the business case upon which we will build the plan to address the needs of affected

workers. One other consideration is that the DOL will not accept an NEG application until California has expended at least 70 percent of its Dislocated Worker funds.

In summary, there was consensus that an NEG request was both viable and valid. It was agreed that we should submit the request as soon as possible and well before the new administration starts on January 20, 2009. The request should focus on both the need for additional staffing as well as funding to provide skills upgrades and job training. To the extent possible, the request should focus on specific industry sectors and skills transfer needs. There should be an overarching consideration on labor market data which will document what is happening in the State with the unemployed and underemployed population. The local areas will need to provide the State with their need for NEG funding for six, twelve, and eighteen month periods. These requests will be based on the local labor market data for the individual LWIA.

Integration/California Workforce Integrated Network System Feasibility Study Report /Learning Labs — Liz Clingman, WSB. Since there was an Integration call immediately following this call at 10:30, this topic was removed from the agenda.

California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB)—Barbara Halsey, CWIB.

The October 29, 2008, Joint Special Committee meeting provided an overview of sector strategies. Two of the special committees of the board have adopted sector strategies as the framework that the full board will use in evaluating workforce strategies in response to economic development around the State.

The Administration Committee is trying to schedule a meeting during the week of December 15, 2008. Potential agenda items would include the work of the Green Collar Jobs Council and the special committees.

The CWIB staff is working on the modification to the 5 year State plan. The plan modification will reflect the current downturn of the California economy and will have a public comment period.

The CWIB staff has been working with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to finalize interagency agreements for the California New Start program.